

HOUSE BILL NO. 423

INTRODUCED BY STAHL, KITZENBERG

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING \$500,000 FROM THE ~~GENERAL STATE~~
~~SPECIAL REVENUE FUND PROCEEDS OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS~~ STATE GENERAL FUND TO
BE USED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS COMMERCE TO PROVIDE GRANT
FUNDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF LAND AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FACILITY FOR CREATION
OF THE GREAT PLAINS DINOSAUR PARK IN MALTA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, because of their relatively remote locations, northeastern Montana communities are
uniquely challenged when it comes to attracting tourists and promoting economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Great Plains Dinosaur Park will showcase the paleontological treasures that have been
found in northeastern Montana; and

WHEREAS, currently, there is no facility in the area large enough to accommodate the newly discovered
dinosaur exhibits; and

WHEREAS, currently, there is no facility in the area large enough to support the growth of the research
faculty to a size appropriate for meeting the scientific demands posed by paleontological study; and

WHEREAS, a park of this size may attract tourism into the area, infusing much-needed funds into the
local economy; and

WHEREAS, the creation of new jobs may contribute to greater economic vitality in the area;

~~—THEREFORE, the Legislature of the State of Montana directs that the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and
Parks administer grants to nonprofit organizations in Malta to ensure the creation of the Great Plains Dinosaur
Park.~~

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Appropriation. There is appropriated \$500,000 from the ~~general fund~~
~~STATE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF STATE PARKS PROCEEDS OF BONDS ISSUED UNDER~~
~~HOUSE BILL NO. 540~~ STATE GENERAL FUND to the department of fish, wildlife, and parks COMMERCE for ~~fiscal year~~
~~2006 for providing grants enabling local nonprofit organizations~~ THE BIENNIUM BEGINNING JULY 1, 2005, to

1 purchase the land and purchase or construct a facility for a park in Malta, Montana, to display the products of
2 paleontological research in the area and to provide research facilities for paleontologists; AND complete
3 necessary building upgrades; ~~and pay property taxes.~~ THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MAY LEASE THE PROPERTY
4 TO A PRIVATE, NONPROFIT ENTITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF OPERATING THE PARK.

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6 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2005.

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